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Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics

Extension Service Circular 280

January 1938

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FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

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EXPERIMENT STATION FILE

Australia, Canada, China, England, India, Latvia,
Mauritius, Nigeria, Trinidad and Tobago,
Union of South Africa, and Zanzibar

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DISTRIBUTION: A copy of this circular has been sent to each State extension director, State and assistant State leader in county agricultural agent, home demonstration, and 4-H club work; State agricultural-college library; and experiment-station library.

A U S T R A L I A

Resident Advisers

One of the best means of disseminating information among rural producers and helping the education of agriculturists is our system of advisers in agriculture, dairying and horticulture, resident in country centers, and agricultural experts of various kinds located at Adelaide.

Agricultural, dairying, and horticultural advisers are resident in various country towns, and have defined districts in which to operate with the object of improving the agricultural production. Their principal line of attack is to visit producers on their holdings, discussing their problems on the spot, giving what advice they can, and helping each individual in any way that is possible.

Farm-to-Farm Visits
Besides the farm-to-farm visits, the district advisers deliver lectures to branches of the agricultural bureau, at public meetings and schools, give demonstrations in agricultural practices, judge agricultural competitions, and adjudicate at agricultural shows.

The heads of the various branches of the Department of Agriculture, including the poultry section, are located at Adelaide, and are available to help anyone desiring their services, and can be approached by personal visit, letter, or telephone.

--The Journal of the Department of Agriculture of South Australia, Vol. XL, No. 12, July 1937. Adelaide, Education Building.

C A N A D A

The Canadian Council on Boys' and Girls' Club Work

The Canadian Council on Boys' and Girls' Club Work was organized in 1931 for the purpose of developing and maintaining a National boys' and girls' farm club policy for the coordination of effort, by the unification of the basic principles of club organization and activity, and by fostering the development of club work on a sound and constructive basis.

The administration of the Council is financed by grants from the Dominion and Provincial Departments of Agriculture, and the membership subscriptions of the business institutions and associations are devoted to the management of annual Interprovincial club contests at the Royal Winter Fair.

Club work for farm boys and girls, which began in Canada about 25 years ago, has been gradually developed and improved until it now occupies a prominent position in the agricultural extension programs of all the departments of agriculture.

Club Work Trains
for Citizenship
Club work is designed to develop interest in the farm and farm life, to provide a practical education in agriculture and home economics, to improve farm practices, to encourage the use of better livestock and seed, and to train young people for citizenship in their respective districts.

National or International club contests are conducted annually by the Canadian Council in conjunction with the Royal Winter Fair at Toronto. In 1935 six projects; including dairy cattle, beef cattle, swine, poultry, seed grain, and seed potatoes were included in the contest program; 64 members, or 32 teams of two members each, competed, representing every Province in the Dominion.

Five of the annual national contests have been conducted by the Council since it was formed in 1931. It has been clearly demonstrated that these contests have a very definite and beneficial influence on club activities. The necessary regulations for the contests have a bearing upon the basis of club organization and activity; and the oral examinations, which form a part of each project contest, encourage greater study of the project in hand by club members. Teams are selected for the contest at Toronto by means of Provincial elimination contests conducted on the same general basis as the National event.

In 1935, there were 30,282 members enrolled in 1,900 active boys' and girls' clubs in Canada. The rate of progress in point of numbers enrolled is indicated by comparison with the figures for 1931, when there were 1,215 clubs with 21,142 members.

--Scientific Agriculture, Vol. XVI, No. 12, August 1936. Ottawa.

Women's Institutes of Canada Celebrate Fortieth Anniversary 1897-1937

This is the fortieth anniversary year of the organization of the mother Women's Institute at Stony Creek, Ontario, in February 1897. Forty years ago the late Mrs. Adelaide Hoodless of Hamilton was instrumental in bringing before a joint gathering of men and women the organization of a women's society that would have for its chief objective the making of better homes by cooperation with the Provincial Government, which would place extension services at the disposal of homemakers.

The result was the organization of the first Women's Institute in the world, and since that time its benefits have spread over the whole world. The constitution drawn up at that time is almost identical with that in force today. This states:

The object of this Institute shall be to promote that knowledge of household science which shall lead to the improvement in household architecture with special attention to home sanitation, to a better understanding of the economic and hygienic value of foods and fuels and to a more scientific care of children with a view to raising the general health of our people.

Stony Creek celebrated this event with a birthday party and sent pieces of a delicious birthday cake to the members of the Board of the Federated Women's Institutes throughout Canada.

--Country Life in British Columbia, Vol. XXI, No. 4,
May 1937. Vernon, British Columbia.

775 Young Persons in Junior Farmer Movement
in British Columbia

The Junior Farmer Movement in British Columbia was represented during the season of 1936 by 84 boys' and girls' clubs with an aggregate membership of 775 young people, according to a report on the work done as a joint undertaking of the Provincial and Dominion Departments of Agriculture.

Segregated under project headings were: Poultry clubs 29, membership 243; dairy calf clubs 24, membership 259; swine clubs 13, membership 109; potato clubs 12, membership 102; beef-calf clubs 6, membership 62. Commenting on the small number

Projects and Membership of beef-calf clubs the report explains that there are some beef-raising areas in the Province in which spring organization is not practicable, but regulations for the coming year are designed to overcome this difficulty by permitting clubs to be organized in the fall and carried through as winter-feeding projects.

A variation in policy for potato clubs would permit, the report suggests, organization of certified-seed-potato clubs in districts where such seed is readily available and would still permit of the organization of clubs using certified seed but not requiring inspection for certification.

Representatives from British Columbia clubs attended the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto and made good showings with the seed-potato team being awarded second place, the dairy-calf team, third; beef-calf team and swine team, fifth.

--Country Life in British Columbia, Vol. XXV, No. 2,
March 1937, Vernon, British, Columbia.

Junior Extension Program in Homemaking - Ontario

In the spring of 1935, definite changes were made in the Junior program. In its new form it aims to foster in young women a sense of satisfaction in achievement rather than too keen a desire for competition.

This work is carried on under the guidance of a departmental instructor who is known as the coach. The cooperates with the county agricultural representative in getting in touch with groups of girls in the county who desire to take advantage of the program. Some of these girls are already members of junior girls' clubs, but in many cases they represent unorganized groups of girls who are brought together for this purpose. The local leadership method is used, the leader being an older woman, often a Senior Institute member, or a girl who

has already had some training in home economics. Under this leadership the girls hold meetings as outlined in the manuals supplied to the leaders. They complete the work required, keep a record book, and attend the annual county achievement day where they exhibit the results of their efforts.

In planning the program, the interests and needs of the girls are considered and an effort is made to meet them. The first unit of work under this new plan, "A Simple Cotton Dress," was undertaken in the summer of 1935, when 51 training schools were held and 250 clubs organized. As a result, 900 girls each exhibited a dress which they had made, together with a record book, at one of the county achievement days.

Training schools were also for the girls' garden and canning clubs which were organized and supervised by the agricultural representatives. Information was given the girls on cooking of vegetables, storing them for winter use, and planning a garden budget to meet the family needs. Fifty-six of these clubs were organized, and 22 training schools held.

Three new units of work were offered in the fall program: A clothing unit, "Being Well Dressed and Well Groomed," and two in Foods and Nutrition-- "The Supper Club" and "Dressing Up Home-grown Vegetables." Fifty-five training schools were held during the fall or winter, 19 in the clothing unit, 15 in "The Supper Club" and 11 in "Dressing Up Home-Grown Vegetables." To help develop a sense of satisfaction in achievement, certificates are awarded to girls who have completed two units of work. These certificates will lead to county honors for 6 units of work completed and eventually to Provincial honors as a result of 12 completed units.

During the winter, thirty-five 1-month and three 2-week courses were conducted in cooperation with the courses in agriculture organized by the county agricultural representatives, with a total enrollment of 1,490 girls and women. In every course foods and nutrition and household management were features of the program. The major subject in 28 courses was clothing, and the subject of the remaining 10 courses was health education to round out the program. Joint classes with the boys were held on topics of interest to both, including weekly literary meetings with instruction in public speaking and in parliamentary procedure. Three-month courses were also established in seven counties with an enrollment of 210. The organization of these was similar to that of the 1-month schools, but the longer period of time provided for a broader program. Instruction in foods and nutrition and household management was given throughout the course. The students received 1 month's work in clothing, 1 month's in health education, 2 weeks' in house furnishing, and 1 week's in household accessories.

An attempt was made to measure the effectiveness of these courses in educating girls. Questionnaires were filled in by the students which would indicate that many new practices had been introduced into Ontario homes.

Reports show that through the clothing instruction 1,037 garments were made, of which 631 were dresses; 1,100 practices were adopted which made for better selection and care of clothing; 300 persons adopted practices for correction of constipation and for control of weight; 172 homes introduced better practices for the care of milk. Some 1,000 practices were established to increase the consumption of milk, fruits, vegetables, and whole cereals.

Through the work in health education, 50 girls improved their posture, 41 had health examinations, 90 homes had their drinking water analyzed, and 46 adopted better practices of home nursing.

These are merely an indication of progress and, no doubt, will be increased as the pupils have an opportunity to make use of their newly acquired knowledge.

Twelve Junior Institutes were organized at the conclusion of the winter schools, bringing the total number to 130. This organization should provide a means for further study along home-nursing lines. In order to insure a sound educational program, each Junior Institute will be expected to undertake, in the future, at least one unit of work each year as outlined in the junior extension home-making program. In May, a 4-day conference of 350 girls was held at the Ontario Agricultural College. This conference was organized and carried through by the Women's Institute Branch cooperating with the staff of the college. The girls received training in leadership as well as much information of interest and value to rural girls. That this service is appreciated is shown by the increased attendance from year to year.

--Report of the Minister of Agriculture, Province of Ontario, for the year ended March 31, 1936.
Toronto.

Ontario Potato Clubs and Sugar-Beet Clubs

Junior Farmers' potato clubs were conducted by the agricultural representatives in four counties where 4-8-10 fertilizer was applied. The boys' work was especially useful for field meetings and for the study of the best application of fertilizer to potatoes.

Four sugar-beet clubs with approximately 50 members each conducted tests in the sugar-beet area. This department cooperated with the Canada and Dominion Sugar Company in conducting these field tests. Plots were scored, and sugar yields were taken on the best 10 plots of each of the clubs. A number of valuable prizes were provided through the generosity of the sugar company, and highly satisfactory results were obtained.

--Sixty-First Annual Report of the Ontario Agricultural College and Experimental Farm, 1935. Toronto.

Activities of Agricultural Representatives in Ontario

During November plans were made by the agricultural representatives to interest the farmers in the control of botflies in horses. The Provincial zoologist outlined the method of control, gave many demonstrations, attended numerous meetings, and was the guiding hand in the campaign. Cooperation was sought from the Livestock Improvement Association and various breeders' organizations. Local veterinary surgeons undertook to treat the horses, either in community centers or on the home farms, with carbon disulphide capsules to destroy the botfly larvae. In 34 counties a total of 97,300 horses were treated.

Botfly Campaign

Each winter a large number of breeders' meetings are held, and the agricultural representatives are often asked to give assistance in drafting a program and to give addresses on such subjects as parasites and nutritional diseases in livestock, contagious abortion or Bang's disease in cattle, anemia and other swine diseases, besides the perennial problems of better sires and cow testing. During the early spring, the agricultural representatives render a valuable service in locating seed supplies and in having cultures for the inoculation of alfalfa and other legumes ready for distribution. They also assist in the holding of seed fairs, conduct barn meetings, and cooperate with the farmers in establishing seed-cleaning plants. Much practical help is given, in addition, to many organizations connected with rural communities.

Variety of Services Rendered by Representatives

Other duties of the agricultural representatives included the testing of individual samples of milk for butterfat content; post mortems, and diagnoses of poultry diseases; the computing of feed rations; fertilizer formulas; instruction on seed cleaning; weed and disease control; the supervision of the spray service for fruit farmers. Moreover, many individual problems which are growing from year to year were discussed with representatives, and assistance was given wherever possible.

--Report of the Minister of Agriculture, Province of Ontario, for the 5-month period, November 1, 1934 to March 31, 1935. Toronto.

Ontario Extension Work in Poultry Husbandry

The Poultry-Breeding-Station program continues to meet public approval although it has not been possible to make any expansion during the past year. A total of 510 flocks have been operated. These contained 170,232 banded birds. A total of 139,418 blood samples were tested for pullorum disease infection. A minimum of three visits are made annually to each flock, and in most cases four or five visits are required.

The service of the Department is falling far short of meeting the demand for inspection. Testing of flocks is very much below the demand, and requests are being received daily for the enlargement of this service.

The present Department organization for poultry work in the Province requires that practically all poultry service work must be provided by the Poultry Extension Staff. In addition to the breeding-station program a very large number of calls is received for help in other lines of extension work. Demand for Services Too Great to be Met During the past year, members of the staff attended 57 short courses of from 1 to 3 days' duration in each case, addressed 75 special meetings, judged 13 shows, made 76 special calls requiring from 1/2 day to 2 days each, operated 3 judging competitions and held 10 demonstrations. However, it has not been possible to meet all demands for such service, and the calls for assistance are increasing rapidly each year. It is often difficult to know where to draw the line in giving service, but a very definite effort is being made to meet all requests in so far as the time of the staff and the appropriation for extension work will permit.

--Sixty-First Annual Report of the Ontario Agricultural College and Experimental Farm for 1935. Toronto.

Motion Pictures Popular in Quebec

The popularity of agricultural instruction through motion pictures is now an established fact. This type of instruction, which has proved its worth, has become a necessity.

Despite a reduced budget, our operators of motion pictures have been able to satisfy the more important requests. They have given upward of 200 shows across the Province, before a total attendance of 44,210 persons. Lack of time, due to the limited personnel of this section, however, has frequently obliged us to refuse requests of agronomes, promoters, and others.

Several worn films have been replaced. Further, we have imported from France, the United States, and Ontario a goodly number of new films on important agricultural subjects. In most cases, we have had to translate them in order to obtain bilingual copies, the editions being made in this country.

--Report of the Minister of Agriculture of the Province of Quebec for the year ended June 30, 1936. Quebec.

C H I N A

Wukiang Extension Center

Wukiang, a market town in Anhwei Province about 20 miles up the Yangtze River from Nanking, is noted for its cotton production. It was selected by the college in 1923 as a center for the distribution of improved cottonseed. In 1930 the scope of extension activities was very much increased because of cooperation with the Central Agricultural Extension Committee of the National Government. This Committee helped to finance the work to the extent of \$500 per month for about a year.

The purpose of conducting this Extension Center is threefold:

1. To bring the results of our research work to average farmers, and to see whether or not these results are applicable to their needs.

2. To serve as a center where our students may obtain practical experience in rural reconstruction work.

3. To demonstrate to the people how rural reconstruction work should be undertaken. Of the five divisions of work that we have at the Center, agricultural finance, rural health, and rural education are already self-supporting. We believe

Objectives

that in all rural reconstruction we should aim to work with the local people, or rather, to help to remove hindrances to their doing things for themselves, so at our Extension center we strive to improve the financial status of the people and to distribute improved seeds, organize cooperative societies, stamp out their illiteracy, and organize them into groups. With these improvements the rural people can undertake the reconstruction work on their own resources. Any rural reconstruction work initiated on this basis will take root and grow.

This last year there were 3,774 mow (about 629 acres) of land planted to improved cotton, and 3,591 (about 598 acres) to improved wheat. Our extension worker visited the farmers at definite intervals, giving instructions as to the methods of cultivation, planting, and harvesting. Before harvesttime the extension worker visited every field of improved crops, to see whether or not the seed were to be saved from them. The cottonseed was further examined when ginned, thus attempting to eliminate as much poor seed as possible. The demand for improved cottonseed is always in excess of what we can supply.

There are now 74 credit societies, with a membership of 1,092, and one cooperative marketing society. The annual loans made to the members total about \$200,000. The farmers have organized themselves into a group known as "Nun Hwei" (Farmers' Union) with 2,306 members. This organization is planning to sponsor all the extension activities at the center when the college withdraws. At present we are concentrating our effort to strengthen this organization.

Credit Societies and
"Nun Hwei"

The third annual exhibition was held at Wukiang during the 3 days, October 31 to November 2. On November 1 there were about 150 students from this college and from Ginling College, and 30 representatives from Government institutions who attended the exhibit. The college provided a special boat for them so they could go and return the same day. A very good impression of the exhibition was made in the minds of the visitors, especially in the section known as special exhibition. There was demonstrated the whole process involved in the extension of improved seed of cotton and wheat from

Special Exhibition
of Improved Seed
Practices

the time of planting through harvesting and marketing. This was to show how much a farmer can gain by growing and marketing improved seed crops. Thousands of farmers from nearby districts came to see the exhibition. Certainly it was a great time for them.

--Agriculture and Forestry Notes, University of Nanking,
College of Agriculture and Forestry, Nanking, China.
No. 42, November 1936.

E N G L A N D

Young Farmers' Clubs

The Young Farmers' Club movement is one of the outstanding post-war developments in British agriculture, not only in this country but also throughout the British Empire. Much has been done for the social and recreational needs of young people in urban areas, and it is easier to offer post-school educational facilities in a congested urban than a scattered rural district. Until the introduction of the Young Farmers' movement few such facilities existed for the rural boy and girl. One member of a Young Farmers' Club, after some years' experience, has put it succinctly: "Until the Young Farmers' Club was formed in our village there was nothing for us to do and nowhere to go."

Practical projects concerning the care of livestock and the cultivation of the soil, provision of training for hand and eye, cooperation within a small social group have therefore found a ready response. To keep pace with present-day agricultural developments there is a real need of an all-round training for the young people of the countryside.

The Young Farmers' movement is a distinctive social experiment. While its aims are primarily educational it includes also every form of social recreation, and gives opportunity to boys and girls to take part together in all the activities.

--Young Farmers, Book Number 10N21Y.

National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs

This organization coordinates and directs the movement on a National basis in England and Wales. Such a controlling authority is undoubtedly necessary for development along progressive lines, and the increasing measure of support that is now being given to the movement is in large measure due to the wise guidance the National Federation has given.

Clubs affiliated to the Federation pay a per capita membership subscription, but this amount is a small percentage of the income required to keep going the headquarters in London and the staff of organizers, nor can an organization of young people under 21 be expected to maintain a National organization on members' subscriptions. Hitherto the Federation has been largely maintained by financial grants from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries,

and the Carnegie United Kingdom Trustees, but it has always been made clear by these bodies that their grants were intended to maintain the organization for a reasonable period, until it could become self-supporting, and were not to be regarded as permanent. Fortunately, several authorities responsible for county agricultural education have now made initial grants to the Federation, and it

How Maintained

is hoped that these will soon be on such a basis that the future of the Federation will be in a position beyond all doubt.

--The Transactions of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society for the year 1936. Journal of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society, Book Number 10Y7, No. 94.

Technical Advice for Farmers

The Ministry of Agriculture once again desires to draw the attention of farmers and others to the organization which exists whereby farmers, market gardeners, fruit growers, allotment holders, and all with a practical interest in agriculture can obtain advice on the problems that arise in the course of their work.

For the purpose of this service, England and Wales together are divided into 14 provinces, each served by an advisory center, which may be either a university (or university college) with a department of agriculture or an agricultural college. A list of these Provinces with the advisory centers and the counties served is given in a special leaflet on the subject issued by the Ministry of Agriculture.

In addition, each county has a special staff of experts which assists farmers with simple technical knowledge and advice. The chief official is the county agricultural organizer. Farmers and others confronted with technical problems should seek his advice in the first instance. He has under his direction a staff which may include a horticulturist, a poultry instructor, a dairy instructor, and instructors in other branches of agricultural practice. If the county council possesses a farm institute, the county agricultural organizer is usually also responsible for the institute and can make use of its staff for the purpose of giving advice.

Extension Staff

For information on deeper and more abstruse agricultural problems, the advice is available of those who have made a special study of one of the many sciences which lie behind agricultural practice. Such men are stationed in each Province at the advisory center. For plant pests and diseases there are entomologists and mycologists, who advise on troubles caused by insects and fungi, and other micro-organisms respectively. Chemists specialize on soils, manures, feeding and feeding stuffs; economists on questions of farm accounts, farm management, and agricultural economics in general. At most centers there are advisers in veterinary medicine (who deal with animal diseases of general public interest in the Province, e.g., epidemics or cases of high and long-

continued mortality in flocks or herds), and dairy bacteriologists who carry out bacteriological examinations of milk and dairy produce, largely in connection with clean-milk competitions and advisory schemes.

--The Estate Magazine, Country Gentlemen's Association,
Vol. XXXVII, No. 7, July 1937. London.

Film-Strips Effective in Rural Education

To reach people who are engaged in rural pursuits is always a problem. About 2 years ago it was decided to try the visual form of instruction. The initial results were so gratifying that the average attendance at meetings was trebled, and at many meetings there was standing room only for latecomers. Attendance of 150 at very small villages to 350 at larger centers not only makes the lecturer enthusiastic, but as enthusiasm is infectious the audiences are responsive, and the meetings go with a swing. The method adopted was to produce interesting series of film slides on poultry husbandry and note how they were received. The results encouraged the further development of the idea, and the list so far comprises nearly 1,000 pictures and captions on the following subjects:

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Films</u>
Poultry Husbandry	2
Breeds of Poultry	1
Our Breakfast Bacon	2
The Story of the Honey Bee	1
British Breeds of Cattle	1
The Milch Goat	1
Rabbits for Fur and Wool	1
The National Park	1

Ten films, varying length from 65 to 158 pictures, enable a lecturer to arrange an interesting and educative evening's program with very little trouble. Little or no preparation is required in working out notes for the lectures, because, apart from the preliminary remarks, there is little to do except to elaborate any interesting features as they pass on the screen.

The idea of using colored films occurred when the series of film slides on breeds of poultry was being compiled. Examples in mind are the beautiful coloring of a Brown Leghorn cock or a Lady Amherst cock pheasant, or even the background to a picture of any fowl, duck, or turkey. Hand painting was tried by a processing firm in London, and the results were true to life. Colors, however, are only practical with certain subjects. Pictures illustrating the culture of flowers would not be worth while unless colors were used. Ordinary films cost two-pence per picture and caption, and one penny for duplicate or spare copies; colored films cost threepence extra per picture.

Apart from the value of the film slides for imparting information at farm institutes and for lectures at village meetings, the fact that the films

are having a wide distribution outside Great Britain should provide useful publicity for pedigree-livestock from this country, whether it be an Aberdeen Angus bull, a Large White boar, or a White Leghorn cockerel. Not only has this method of imparting instruction proved a decided success but the films are now used in New Zealand, Malta, Scotland, England, Wales, and the Irish Free State.

--The Journal of the Ministry of Agriculture,
Vol. XLIV, No. 5, August 1937. London.

I N D I A

The Agricultural Departments

During the period under review there has been a perceptible improvement in the position, and modest increases in the District staffs of some of the Provinces are in sight. The total number of officers in the superior, provincial, and subordinate grades of the agricultural Department in India, engaged in district work, during 1934-35 was 46, 99, and 1,517 respectively, the corresponding numbers during 1932-33 being 49, 99, and 1,369.

The demonstration of agricultural improvements under cultivators' conditions is still an essential portion of the work of the Indian agricultural departments, and, as in previous years, the village demonstration plot on the cultivator's own land is the most effective form of propaganda.

Demonstrations
Emphasized

During the period under review, considerable attention has been given to the possibility of setting up an organization which will enable the greater part of a Province to be covered by such demonstrations in a reasonable time and without incurring prohibitive expenditure. Such organization is the more urgent in that, in most Provinces, the agricultural departments have for many areas at least a whole body of improved practices ready for demonstration and not merely individual improvements.

--Agriculture and Animal Husbandry in India, 1933-34 and 1934-35, Part I.--Crop Production, issued under the Authority of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, 1936. Delhi.

Village-Rural Extension Service

The strong and fortunate basis for our Extension work is the village Young Men's Christian Associations. Through them as the chief units of our simple organization we work and teach. They are parent and nurturing agents for the other forms such as the cooperative societies of all kinds, the clubs, and the Rural Development Association.

Village Associations

What are these associations? They are not artificial. The great and appealing needs of the village press are hourly upon the consciousness of all who live there. These associations are a banding together of young men of the community to do something to better conditions.

to answer the needs, and make the village a better and happier place in which to live. They come of a desire to serve, and of a realization of the truth that a single village young man can be effective only when he bands himself with the strength of others.

The strength of these associations lies in their "Who's Who"; most of them are without buildings and equipment. Their committeemen and members are young men and boys imbued with the spirit of service, above the mean of the village in education and enlightenment, trained in service (by their service in the association). Young school teachers, lawyers, farmers, high-school boys, and others are the leaders. They work in their spare time without material reward, and one cannot but marvel at the devotion and amount of time and energy some of them put into this labor of love.

So we have in our Travancore and Cochin District these working groups in 113 villages, ultrarural and simple in their organization, their work adapted to the local needs. The work is not stereotyped and in no two villages will it be exactly alike. When a group of young men in each village ask themselves: "What are the greatest needs of our village that no one else will meet?" the answer will not be quite the same in any two villages. Even though this be true, we find that in every place there are needs under the following five general classifications: Religious, educational, physical, social, and economic.

Only a few of the associations have buildings. They would like to have little buildings, could they afford it, to serve as headquarters for their work, house their little libraries and other simple working equipment, accommodate their smaller meetings. In the few places which have them, their little verandas serve as stage, platform, or pulpit for large audiences that sit on the ground in the open during good weather. The few which have been built by the members' own hands are veritable lighthouses, not only to the villages in which they stand but to the other villages around. In most villages the members hold their rainy-weather meetings in some little church or school building.

Each association has its honorary general secretary, and each of the departments - religious, educational, physical, social and economic - has its honorary departmental secretary. There is a general committee for the whole work, and smaller ones for each department. The religious-work secretary in our organization will naturally be a Christian, but members of other religious affiliations may take leadership in the religious work, as when a Hindu leads a class in study of the Bhagavad-Gita. In the other departments non-Christians often become committee members or even secretaries. Sometimes special committees are formed for specific projects, as for educational temperance work. Hindus

and Mohammedans sometimes take the greatest interest in this work and consequently take the leadership and secretaryship of it. In some associations there is a paying membership. In most of them, however, membership is free. For necessary funds, specific appeals are made as needs arise in the work.

To bring into one working group all interested persons who may or may not belong to any of our village associations or any of our cooperative societies of various kinds we have the South Travancore Rural Development Association. And, as is seen by the objects given, its very first purpose is to speed up socialization throughout our whole extension field. The objects are:

Objectives

1. To bring people of all castes and religions to join hands in this work of improving the economic, social, moral, and spiritual welfare of the people living in the villages of the Martandam Extension Area.
2. To demonstrate and popularize in the villages better methods of agriculture and cottage industries proved to be profitable by the Government, the Y. M. C. A. Rural Demonstration Center, and other agencies.
3. To help rural families to increase their incomes by the application of cooperative principles and methods in the production and marketing of agricultural and industrial products.
4. To help toward better livestock, poultry, and varieties of plants.
5. To improve the health of the people by introducing methods of sanitation, by sinking wells, teaching health and character-forming games, and carrying on health education.
6. To help in the holding of exhibitions, in the villages and at the Rural Reconstruction Center at Martandam, which show results of our reconstruction work, and to stimulate others to have better products.
7. To check the evils resulting from the use of alcoholic drinks and drugs by educating the masses through lectures, exhibitions of charts and pictures, distribution of literature, etc., as well as by the use of lantern slides.
8. To improve road communication to villages.
9. To settle disputes by means of arbitration by panchayats (a native village court of arbitration of five or more members).
10. To do any other things possible to promote the well-being of village people irrespective of caste or creed.

This association has a majority of non-Christian members: its president is a Nayar-Hindu gentleman who is the head master of the large Government high school adjacent to our Center, which school is the educational center of the extension area and helps materially through its pupils in

spreading what we teach. The other members of its committee are elected from different castes and religions. Its membership admits all persons, male or female, who will work for the objects of the association and contribute toward them.

All agencies in a given local area should mobilize all their powers and all their interests for the common good of the whole group. To this end it has been recommended that Rural Reconstruction Units be started. Our method was rather to start serving, and then gradually and naturally to enlist the cooperation of all agencies until we had the full Rural Reconstruction Unit in action. I do not know that this could be successfully done artificially or from a set-up at the start. The success of the work owes everything to the hearty cooperation and participation of all agencies, which include the London Mission (missionaries, pastors, and catechists of the churches, the home mission workers--who when we came with this new type of work into their old field welcomed us saying: "This was needed to complete the Christian program. When we had taught the people the better way of life--the Christian way, many of them were actually too poor to live it"); the village Y. M. C. A. (which is autonomous); the Salvation Army; the school authorities--The director of public instruction, the head master of the Central High School; and the teachers of the village schools, members of the staffs of the State colleges; the officials of the Government Cooperative Department; the agricultural department, and the Department of Industries; the commercial chemist; the dewan Peishkar (chief revenue officer); the tahsildars (tax collectors); the village officers; the doctors of the Medical Mission (which has a small hospital across the road from our Center) and the Government doctors; the Department of Public Health; the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts or Guides authorities; and, above all, the people--the people of all castes and creeds and conditions.

We see along our Extension way some of the health education work. Rural ill health is appalling. How many of our finest village leaders--strong athletic young men--have been stricken and have died; and whole villages have been sorely affected by their passing! Who would have dreamed that there would be so much typhoid fever in purely rural places? Cholera took over 2,000 of our people here in South Travancore the year before last and broke out again last year. Hookworm surveys by the Rockefeller Foundation indicate that in some of our villages every person has hookworm. At our Center and in our Extension work we ever do what we can toward sanitation and health. The encouraging response we get is illustrated in the case of the bore-hole latrine, the use of which we have pioneered. Even before we had experimented with this borer as much as we wished, village after village wanted it. They wanted it to bore near schools which had up to 300 boys and girls and teachers, and no sanitary arrangements whatever. They wanted to bore in their own home compounds also.

After nightfall we may attend a rural drama. The direction of this powerful, innate, and indigenous vehicle for Indian rural education, for cheering entertainment and recreation, for socialization and self-expression, is another responsibility of the Rural Extension Secretary. The powerful Indian moon makes it easy for large crowds to walk, barefoot, from distant places to these entertainments, and after the show it will light them home and us back to the Center for the night.

Drama - Powerful
Vehicle for Education

--Up From Poverty in Rural India, D. Spencer Hatch,
Director of Rural Demonstration, Tranvancore
and Cochin District. Book Number 281, 182H28.
Ed. 3.

L A T V I A

"Mazpulki" or Young Farmers' Clubs

I solemnly promise to carry out all my duties and, in order to become a useful member of the Young Farmers' Club I shall do my work to the best of my ability.

By this declaration a pupil of a primary school, 8 to 12 years of age, is adopted as a member of the Junior Young Farmers' Club of Latvia. If he keeps to his given promise and shows an interest in further achievements, then, after reaching 12 years of age, he is admitted to the Young Farmers' Club proper.

The spirit of youth may be compared to a swift-flowing stream. When the direct care of parents is left behind, we in Latvia should like to see that spirit given the opportunity and guidance to become of real use to the community, just as a properly regulated stream gives us power, energy, and light. The Young Farmers' Club is a movement to educate the youth of Latvia, morally and physically; to teach youth to see and judge things individually; to adopt the right things and to stand for them; to adopt initiative and self-reliance; to understand the necessity of self-control and the feeling of responsibility; to be unselfish and be able to give help and make sacrifices.

Aims

Work in the garden, orchards, or fields, the breeding of livestock, all help young people to love the results of their work, make them good observers of nature and their surroundings. Their young ambitions and energy are not suppressed by compulsory duties, but are inspired by free competition with their fellows, and their natural desire to be first.

There are at present in Latvia 843 Young Farmers' Clubs, including other youth organizations; the total number of organized youth in Latvia is about 50,000.

To the Young Farmers' Clubs are admitted boys and girls, 12 to 16 years of age. Still younger boys and girls are admitted to the Junior Young Farmers' Clubs. The members of Junior Clubs are entitled to wear an approved uniform. They are formed in separate parties of not less than four and not more than eight members in a group. The work of these groups is supervised and directed by the assistant leader of the local Young Farmers' Club. The junior members have the right to attend the meetings of the clubs, but are not entitled to vote but, with the permission of their leader, they may participate in excursions and other occasions of the club's activities.

Junior Clubs for
Younger Boys
and Girls

The junior member has a plot under cultivation which must not be smaller than 45 square feet and not exceed 225 square feet. The junior members are entitled to participate in young farmers' shows, but must have their own separate stand. They are not awarded official prizes, but the best exhibits receive certificates, and very often useful presents are distributed to their owners. In the programs of the gatherings of Junior Young Farmers' Clubs a prominent space is allotted to games.

The Young Farmers' Clubs have their management and their boards meet every month to discuss current matters and to decide the program of activities.

During the winter months special meetings are organized at the Young Farmers' Clubs, and usually lecturers and instructors are sent from headquarters or by the Chamber of Agriculture. At these meetings various questions concerning progress in farming, state, or social affairs are discussed. The lectures include such subjects as forestry, fieldwork, canning, horticulture, poultry keeping, handicrafts, and national history and traditions. Excursions are arranged to inspect the best farms, factories, sporting events, and social gatherings. One of the aims of the Young Farmers' Clubs is also to teach its members to know and love their country, and frequent hiking expeditions are arranged.

Winter Club
Activities

A total area of 595 acres was cultivated by the members last year, and various produce, such as tomatoes, cucumbers, sprouts, carrots, various seeds, cereals, etc., were cultivated. As many as 1,224 girl members were occupied directly in household matters, and 226 girls were engaged in rearing cattle, sheep, poultry, rabbits, etc.

Once a year the leaders of the clubs gather to discuss all current affairs and to draw up plans for the future. The clubs lend their hand also to help beautify their countryside. About 107,000 trees were planted and two plant nurseries were erected by them.

As a result of the recommendations by the headquarters, about 500 children from the towns have been taken by the parents of members of Young Farmers' Clubs to spend with them their summer holidays.

Altogether 757 shows of goods produced by the clubs were held last year. At these shows books and farming implements are usually distributed as prizes to the best exhibitors. The value of the prizes distributed last year was about 500 pounds (\$2,432.25).

The work of the clubs is guided by the Chamber of Agriculture, which provides them with instructors, and all the local expenses are made good by the clubs themselves. Very substantial help to the movement is given by the head masters and teachers of local primary schools. In order to encourage the clubs to start their own libraries, a selection of 30 books was given to each club by the Department of Agriculture last year. The biggest event of the year is, of course, the annual National Show, to which all the clubs send exhibits. The show is very popular, and is usually attended by Dr. K. Ulmanis, who himself comes of farming people, and has accepted the highest leadership of the Young Farmers' Clubs of Latvia.

All Clubs Exhibit at
National Shows

--The Country Woman, Vol. 4, No. 37, March 1937.
London.

M A U R I T I U S

Agricultural Instruction

Frequent visits were paid to holdings of planters by the agricultural superintendent. The importance of soil conservation is now recognized by some of the farmers, but the work to avoid erosion has been very roughly done. Slight improvement is also noticeable in the cultural methods employed in some localities. However, there is still a great number of lands that are being rapidly exhausted owing to bad cultivation. To obtain an improvement of such a state of affairs the establishment of demonstration plots cannot do any great amount of good. The above-mentioned lands are in the hands of those farmers who reckon only on favorable weather conditions to obtain a good yield of food crops and are under the impression that the work which is carried out in the demonstration plots requires a great deal of expense that Government or rich people only can afford to meet. In the attempt to alter such a conviction and at the same time to prevent further deterioration of big areas of Crown Lands, His Excellency the Governor, after his visit to Rodrigues, has granted an amount to be spent on works of terracing, planting of Betivert grass, manuring, etc., on the holdings of planters themselves, work to be carried out with the assistance of the latter and his family. An area of more or less worn-out lands has been selected. A meeting of the farmers of the locality has been held, and interest was shown when the scheme was explained to them.

--Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture for
1935, Colony of Mauritius. Port Louis, 1936.

N I G E R I A

Extension Work in Mixed Farming

An Extension mallam (MALLAM--Hausa, teacher or scribe) is stationed in each mixed farming district as an itinerant instructor. He is usually a man who has attained a comparatively high standard of education at the Katsina Higher College, or some similar school, and spent 2 years at the Department of Agriculture's farm school at Samaru. Before going out into the district the mallam works at a farm center a year to make certain that his outlook upon native agriculture and the farmer is desirable, for it is an important necessity that he should be in complete sympathy with the farmers with whom he is dealing in order that he may have their confidence. The mallams are native administration officials and frequently they have obtained their training at the farm school with a native administration scholarship. The duties of an extension mallam are to supervise the laborer on the demonstration farm, to receive the names of farmers who wish to take up mixed farming, and to assist those already established. This last function is most important and, in order to assist farmers who need help, the mallam follows a definite itinerary every week so that farmers will know where he is to be found on any given day. The mallams have been taught by the Animal Health Department to give injections for trypanosomiasis. They also attend at markets to see that farmers get a fair price for their produce.

A number of "cattle boys" work under each extension mallam. They are generally laborers who have shown themselves trustworthy, and their function is mainly to assist first-year mixed farmers in the practical details of the new system--yoking of bullocks, hours of working bullocks and feeding, adjustment of plows, supply of bedding, and so on. One cattle boy can look after about ten new mixed farmers.

It has been found that good hoe farmers make good mixed farmers; but the best farmers in the district do not come forward in the beginning. They watch developments, and, when convinced, ask to be established. Thus many second-year farmers are more advanced already than farmers who have been established for 5 years. The witness given by these good farmers is one of the best forces in Extension Work.

--Bulletin No. 33--Report on a Visit to Northern Nigeria to Study Mixed Farming. Department of Agriculture, Gold Coast. Issued by the Director of Agriculture, Accra, Gold Coast Colony. 1937.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

District Agricultural Work

Mr. A. B. Killick, assistant director of agriculture, who is in charge of district work reports as follows:

The district staff consists of 2 agricultural officers and 11 agricultural advisers supplemented by a number of inspectors of the Plant Protection Service. Of the advisers, two are stationed in Tobago, one is engaged solely on work in connection with the organization and control of agricultural credit societies, and a fourth is posted to the principal rice-growing district and devotes his attention primarily to the encouragement and development of peasant-grown rice in the area under his charge. The other advisers are each stationed in a county, and the greater part of their time is devoted to advisory work among peasant proprietors. Close contact is maintained with their work owing to the fact that all attend the head office of the department at the end of each month and, in addition, visits are made to the various advisers in their districts. On such occasions the opportunity is taken of discussing the work on hand and advising as to future activities.

Work With Peasant Proprietors

--Trinidad and Tobago Administration Report of the
Director of Agriculture for the year 1936.
Trinidad and Tobago, 1937. Council Paper
No. 47 of 1937.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

The Lydenburg Boys' Agricultural Club

For the benefit of those who are not acquainted with the organization of Maize Agricultural Clubs, it may be briefly explained how they work. Each boy has to cultivate half a morgen of land (about an acre). For certain operations, such as plowing, harrowing, cultivating (with small cultivators), etc., which they cannot perform alone, the assistance of one or two natives is allowed, but the boys are required, as far as possible, to do the work themselves. The plots being their own, they develop a feeling of responsibility and of pride in their work, and are taught from their earliest youth that work is no disgrace.

The Department of Agriculture and Forestry provides them with good seed, and they are instructed by their club leaders and by officers of the Department in matters such as weed control, the application of fertilizer, the importance of kraal manure, selecting seed from the land, maize diseases, etc. Surprise inspections are held by the club leader and the officer of the Department, and marks awarded for: (1) A clearing of 4 to 6 yards around the plot; (2) straight rows and the absence of weeds; (3) cultivation of the soil before and after the planting season; and (4) general interest shown by the boy in his work.

Surprise Inspections Basis of Awards

One fact which farmers in general would do well to realize is that a strip 4 to 6 yards wide should be cleared right around the land. One often sees maize lands which, although thoroughly clean themselves, are surrounded by a belt of weeds growing luxuriantly and shedding seed which will germinate during the following season. Thus it will be noted that the boys are thoroughly instructed and specially encouraged to practice harrowing a few times before and after planting and after that, by thorough cultivation, to keep their plots free from weeds. The obligation to keep their plots neat had a wholesome effect on the school work and other activities of the boys.

Clean Cultivation
Necessary

The success achieved may be attributed, briefly, to the following factors: (1) Use and selection of good seed; (2) eradication of weeds; (3) application of the necessary manure; and (4) thorough soil cultivation. One boy, who has now for 3 years been selecting his own seed, obtained the highest yield, 40 bags per morgen (about an acre). His plot received 200 pounds of super-phosphate and a load of kraal manure, and the stand of maize presented a pleasing sight.

Factors of Success

While it is realized that farmers cannot possibly cultivate their lands as thoroughly as the boys do their half-morgen plots, better results may nevertheless be obtained if they cultivate smaller pieces of land and give them the necessary treatment. Generally farmers do not yet fully appreciate the importance of selecting seed from the land. It is most gratifying, however, to note that farmers are eagerly buying up the seed selected by the boys. The demand for this seed this year far exceeded the available supplies.

Boys Sell Seed
to Farmers

--Farming in South Africa, Vol. XII, No. 132, March 1937. Pretoria, Union of South Africa.

The Handbook for Farmers in South Africa

When, in 1929, the first Handbook for Farmers in South Africa was published, it was the first attempt by the Department to make available to farmers a compendium of agricultural advice in book form. The demand for this comprehensive and useful book, proved to be so great that the first edition of 3,000 copies in each language was exhausted within a few months after publication. A revised edition of 6,000 English and 3,000 Afrikaans copies was also sold out toward the end of 1932.

At that time the financial depression was forcing many farmers to cut down their expenses, and consequently applications for the handbook came in only intermittently. Toward the end of 1933, however, when the first rays of light began to break through the depression clouds, there was a fresh demand for the handbook. Time and again the Department had to reply to such applications to the effect that the handbook was out of print and that the financial position of the country did not permit of expenses

being incurred in connection with the republication, and it was decided to make the new handbook more comprehensive so as to cover all branches of farming as far as possible.

The Department now has the pleasure of announcing that toward the end of the month of July, the third revised and enlarged edition of the Handbook for Farmers in South Africa will be obtainable. The new book contains about 400 pages more than the old one. It is provided with a complete list of contents and a comprehensive index.	Revised Edition Greatly Enlarged
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We venture to state that farmers generally would welcome this most helpful and informative book, which, although larger than its previous editions, is sold at the same price, so that it is within the means of every farmer to procure a copy.

In the arrangement of the subject matter, the practical aspects of farming were kept in mind. The first section, therefore, deals with the objects and organization of a farming enterprise-- useful information on the economics and payability of farming. The next 3 sections deal with live-stock farming in all its branches, such as breeding, feeding, and care of health. Then follow sections on soil and moisture, field crops, fruit culture, tree planting, insects and pests, etc. The last of the 12 sections gives a variety of information for the farm home.	Subject Matter by Sections
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A great deal of information is provided in these 12 sections of the handbook. The practical and experienced farmer, as well as the student in agriculture will find this book very useful as a source of reference.

--Farming in South Africa, Vol. XII, No. 136, July
1937. Pretoria, Union of South Africa.

Z A N Z I B A R

Field Staff of the Department of Agriculture

The organization of extension work was further advanced during the year, attention being directed principally to propaganda and advisory work in connection with copra which was undertaken by the Produce Inspection Staff in Pemba District and by a subordinate staff detailed specially for district work in Zanzibar. The effects of the work of this staff are clearly visible in both islands in the improved quality of copra and in the large number of copra kilns which have been constructed. It may be of interest to record the steps which have been taken and are still being taken to consolidate the ground gained. Under the provisions of the Adulteration of Produce Decree all copra arriving at the scheduled ports of Pemba is examined for moisture	Preparation of Copra for Market
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content or decomposed matter, the satisfactory copra being detained until it has been redried or picked over as the case may be. This copra is re-examined, prior to sale, upon arrival in Zanzibar. Copra produced in Zanzibar is examined in the town copra market for the same defects. The names and addresses of those whose copra has failed to pass these simple standards are taken, and visits are made to their premises by a member of the Department of Agriculture and such advice and instruction given as is necessary. When the defects are due to faulty technique, an experienced copra maker is lent for a week; and where kiln construction is faulty, assistance is given in reconstruction. Financial aid for the latter purpose is given to approved applicants.

A successful agricultural show, the first of its kind in the Protectorate, extending over a period of 3 days, was held at Kizimbani Experiment Station in September of 1936, and there were several thousand people in attendance. The Department's exhibits of graded produce and of copra manufacture by different methods in different types of kilns aroused particular interest and induced many to return for further information.

Agricultural Show

--Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture for the year ended December 31, 1936. Zanzibar Protectorate, Zanzibar, East Africa.



Foreign Agricultural Extension Activities

*Australia, Canada, China, England,
India, Latvia, Mauritius, Nigeria,
Trinidad and Tobago, Union of South
Africa, Zanzibar*



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